



Annual General Meeting, 18th May 2019

Minutes v01

1. Attendance

Dr Ali Ashgar Salamati (DrA)	Acting Chair
Lee McKeown (LM)	Member
Steve McKeown (SM)	Member
Ross Connelly (RC)	SWA Association
Nicolae Cojocaru (NC)	ETKO Sports Academy/Athlete & Coach
Ana Jornea (AJ)	Member
David Somerville (DS)	sportscotland
Jem Lawson (JL)	BWA Chair
Vasile Jornea (VJ)	Development Director
Alex Gladkov (AG)	Board Member
Alison Deuchars (AD)	Minute taker (SSA)

Apologies:

Kathryn Gallagher, Jennifer Underwood, Dimitris Chrysanthakopoulos, Umaru Sidique, Pedram Nikabadi, Abbie Fontain, Prem Singh (Kabadi), Kash Tank (Glasgow Life) and Cary Depel and Nicola Harcus who have now resigned as Chair and Governance Director respectively.

2. Abstract of Previous AGM

Approval of the Minutes of AGM held on 10th December 2017

Minutes of the last meeting were approved

Proposed: AG

Seconded: VJ

3. AGM

3.1. Presentation

VJ gave a presentation on how Scottish Wrestling is working hard to improve governance.

Summary:

There is a new accounting system to keep accounts up to date, Zoho Books, and a new expense management system, Airtable. A financial statement summary is online for all members to view.

VJ presented a split of figures for 2019-23 through funding agreed with sportscotland.

There was a demonstration of the new operations system, Notion, and an explanation of goals, tasks and registers.

SW are recruiting for three part-time contracts in Administration, Education and Development.

All long-term goals and outcomes from the previous cycle have been met. SW have achieved 93% of the new safeguarding standards, GDPR compliance is at 100% and Equality is at foundation level. The 500 members target has been surpassed.

A number Wrestling Moves (WM) events are planned including summer camps in partnership with SEMSA. SW will hold a Scottish Open later in the year.

SW are looking into partnerships with other wrestling styles including Backhold and Kabadi

A promotional video for WM was shown, demonstrating a number of different techniques.

There will be WM courses for all ages

VJ presented recent performance achievements; a huge congratulations to all of those mentioned and to Steve McKeown who is taking on a new role of GB support coach .

3.2. Communications and Partnerships

AG presented the new logo, kit and improvements to social media

VJ explained that some long-term outcomes have been agreed with Sports Scotland.

JL raised the question of how Scottish Wrestling will be working on other styles and on improving relationships with BWA.

3.3. Next Steps

Ongoing progress to be made in Government and Finance and UKCC courses in Scotland. Pathway and education courses for all areas.

WM camps and performance camps, Scottish Open Championships

SW Awards, club support service, and building partnerships

3.4. Questions on presentation

JL asked what ideas and directions there are to encompass other styles and spread knowledge with other nations.

Dr A explained that Sport Scotland wants one organisation to cover the sport as an umbrella body. This will give individual autonomy to different organisations

JL advised that care must be taken regarding insurance and must be aware that incomers comply with the structure. Dr A has asked for insurance details from BWA.

NC asked for more information about SEMSA - Scottish Ethnic Minorities Sports

Association. Dr A explained what SEMSA is and does and that an alliance with SEMSA is

good. There had been positive feedback from 2018 and therefore want it again in 2019. RC mentioned that kids have enjoyed SEMSA camps.

4. Q&A session

NC raised the issue that his only opportunity is to compete as a Scot is in the

Commonwealth Games and he would like to see a way to offer more support to athletes.

This led to a discussion about BWA funding in Scotland and support and opportunities for Scottish performance athletes.

DS explained that the investment cycle for wrestling is two years not four because SW is improving. Sport Scotland invest in programmes and are flexible with opportunity to review athlete support services throughout the year.

NC offered his thanks to all of those who have supported him.

SM said that there are now a number of Scottish athletes in the GB elite programme who need support within SW, which shows progression.

5. Any Other Business

There have been developments within BWA including a new website. Branding guidelines are in development and BWA have a new partnership with a recruiting company in the north west.

BWA are looking for a new CEO, VM will be covering the costs of the recruitment process. There are two board vacancies for a NI Director and a Finance Director.

6. Further Discussions

VJ would like to see a formal partnership agreement with BWA and JL explained that it is in black and white from the CEO that this will happen. All agreed that the relationship is improving.

Partnerships with other organisations are in development, Kabadi is keen to come on board as is Backhold, however there is a concern about BWA insurance.

There is currently no official 'home' for wrestling in Scotland and SW need this to help grow the sport.

One of the next steps would be to get wrestling involved in local sports hubs.

NC explained that there are many grapplers around this country and BWA are open to embrace grapplers

JL and Dr A are to talk with VJ to get to the bottom of the insurance issue and find out what is required and what are the terms and conditions.

Members will be consulted on Articles of Association to accommodate other organisations.

Dr A is preparing job descriptions for the board vacancies and word is to be passed around to clubs for all eligible and qualified candidates to apply.

7. Awards

NC received SW singlet presented by Dr A and JL